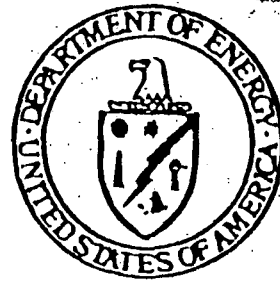


MONTICELLO VICINITY PROPERTIES (MVP) SUPERFUND SITE



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INFORMATION UPDATE

February 1990

Background

On June 10, 1986, properties in the vicinity of the now inactive U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) uranium millsite in Monticello, Utah were formally included on the Superfund Programs National Priorities List (NPL). In December 1988, DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Utah Bureau of Solid and Hazardous Waste signed an agreement to ensure that the appropriate cleanup of radioactive contamination at these properties is undertaken in compliance with Superfund. "Superfund" is the common name given to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA)/ Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA).

Record of Decision

On November 29, 1989, the DOE and the EPA entered into a Record of Decision (ROD) that presents the selected remedy for cleanup of the mill tailings contamination at the Monticello Vicinity Properties (MVP) Superfund Site. The State of Utah concurs with the findings in the ROD.

Selected Remedy

The remedy selected by DOE and EPA is to remove radioactive contaminated material and to replace it with clean materials or, alternatively, to modify existing structures to isolate radiation sources. Cleanup activities will require excavation of contaminated materials and, in some cases, demolition of sidewalks, patios, sheds, and other improvements. All excavations will be refilled with clean soils and regraded. All affected structures and other improvements will be reconstructed. The contaminated materials will be relocated temporarily at the Monticello Millsite and will subsequently be disposed of with the Millsite tailings in a permanent disposal site. The relocation of the Millsite tailings are covered by a separate action under CERCLA.

Cleanup Required by Superfund

Compliance with CERCLA/SARA mandates that remedial action must be performed at properties, with contamination in excess of EPA standards. The Superfund program requires that all contaminated properties must be cleaned up to acceptable levels before delisting from the NPL can occur. Any remedial action necessary will be at no cost to the property owner and the cost for cleanup will be borne by the U.S. Department of Energy. The Monticello Vicinity Properties Superfund Site currently includes 91 properties authorized for remedial action. However, additional inclusion surveys scheduled to be completed in 1990 are expected to identify a substantial number of new properties that will require remediation.

Block Concept To Be Used For Property Identification and Cleanup

In order to simplify and speed up the identification and removal of mill tailings from Monticello properties, DOE plans to use a "block" concept for the inclusion surveys and for the cleanup work. Instead of randomly selecting properties throughout the city of Monticello, all the properties in an entire city block will be surveyed to ensure that properties with contamination in excess of EPA standards are identified in a timely and cost-effective manner. Since much of the mill tailings contamination has been carried from the millsite by the wind, surveys will begin with the blocks closest to the millsite and will be continued progressively away from the millsite.

Those properties within a block which are found to contain contamination in excess of the EPA standards will be designated for cleanup, and remedial design will be undertaken for the properties as a group. In most cases, a construction subcontract will be awarded for cleanup of the "block." The use of the block concept will result in a savings of taxpayers' money and will speed up the cleanup process by improving construction efficiency. It will also eliminate the multiple disruptions to the neighborhood that otherwise would occur if the properties were remediated individually. The objective of the cleanup program is to remove the contamination source (uranium mill tailings) and to restore property to a condition as close as possible to that which existed prior to remedial action.

Owner Participation

The cleanup effort will require cooperation and participation from all property owners within each block. Within the next few months, representatives of the Department of Energy will contact owners of properties within city blocks selected for radiologic assessment to obtain permission to survey their properties for radioactive contamination.

If the survey results indicate cleanup is required, each property owner will be asked to sign an individual Remedial Action Agreement (RAA) for their specific property prior to the awarding of the construction subcontract. Following the inclusion of the property into the program, a representative of UNC Geotech, the DOE's Remedial Action Contractor (RAC), will be appointed to oversee the work on each block and to coordinate activities with property owners throughout the cleanup process.

For Additional Information

If you have questions about the remedial action process, please contact:

UNC Geotech (Monticello, Utah) Office	(801) 587-2615
or Mr. Peter Mygall, Office of External Affairs U.S. Department of Energy	(303) 248-6015
Mr. Paul Mushovic, Remedial Project Manager U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	(303) 294-7519
Mr. Steven Peterson, Environmental Engineer Utah Department of Health	(801) 583-6170

Mailing List Additions

If you did not receive this update by mail, and you would like to be added to the DOE's mailing list for the Monticello Superfund Site, please send the following information to:

Mr. Peter Mygall
Office of External Affairs
U.S. Department of Energy
Grand Junction Projects Office
P.O. Box 2567
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Name _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Company, organization, or governmental entity _____

Indicate area(s) of interest:

☐ Monticello Vicinity Properties

☐ Monticello Millsite _____

Comments or Questions _____

(Please supply your name and phone number so we can respond)